28 Four Rod Road

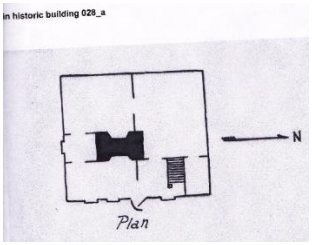
1720

Samuel Upson store, post office
Samuel Upson (1820-1880)
& Margaret Dickinson (1823-1844)
& Ann Elizabeth Whittlesey (1823-1890)

1934 WPA Census of Old Buildings in Connecticut Survey at the Connecticut State Library Digital Collection. Slide #028

1800 current owner: Paul Helinski 50 Four Rod Road, faces east

Wood. Hip truncated roof. Central brick chimney. Two & half stories/ modern porch on front and sides of house, small greek key pattern in cornice. Southeast room has no paneling but has a mantel. Southwest room doors are 8 panel with raised panels and complex mold.



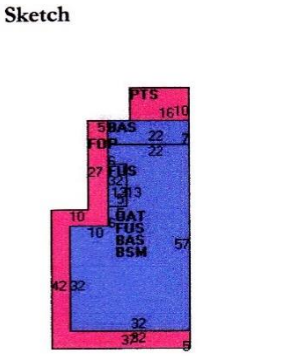
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 041

18th century Samuel Upson store current owner: Jack Teske & Chrsitine Fagan

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

Eighteenth century. Samuel Upson store, post office.

Current owner: Jack Teske, Christine Fagan



Genealogy

Samuel Upson (1820-1880) was born in Wolcott, CT the son of Thomas & Jerusha Upson. He married first to Margaret Dickinson (1823-1844) and they had children. He married second to Ann Elizabeth Whittleysey (1823-1890) and they had children. He joined the Kensington Congregational Church in 1839. He was the Southington postmaster from 1849-1853. In 1857 he bought the property on Four Rod Road from Sheldon Moore. He was the first to tell town residents about the beginning of the Civil War when shots were fired at Fort Sumter. He is buried in Fairview Cemetery in New Britain, CT

ISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
UILDING AND STRUCTURES
IST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#041

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR	IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) | (Historic): Samuel Upson Store

2. TOWN CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE: Kensington | COUNTY: Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 28 Four Rod Road | 9-3/88/3A

4. OWNER(S): Teske, Jack & Fagan, Christine C. | " " Kensington 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private

5. USE (Present): Residence | (Historic): Post Office, store

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Vernacular | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 18th century, 19th century additions

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☐ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify) _____
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☒ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: _____ ☐ Cut stone Type: _____

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify) _____

DESCRIPTION

10. ROOF (Type)
☐ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☒ Other (Specify) Double-pitch hip

(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☐ Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 38' x 57'

12. CONDITION (Structural) ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated | (Exterior) ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location) ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN? | (Alterations) ☒ Yes ☐ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN: Siding, Victorian porch

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☒ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☒ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In cluster of 18th- and 19th-century buildings near intersection of Four Rod and Burnham.

(OVER)

#41

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER: HRC

VIEW: NW

NEGATIVE ON FILE: A5A

COMPILED BY

NAME: Historic Resource Consultants

ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory

ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR

The Samuel Upson Store is square in plan. The four-bay facade has a center-right entry; the Victorian entry door has twin round-headed lights. Across the front is a one-story porch with square chamfered posts and jigsawn post brackets with floral cut-outs. This porch extends around to the left, continuing across the left elevation of a two-story rear extension. Windows are fitted with 2-over-2 sash. Much detailing is obscured by modern siding. A single brick chimney emerges at the center of the double-pitched hip roof.

SIGNIFICANCE

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The Samuel Upson Store is significant as a good surviving example of an early commercial building. The large porch and generous scale reflect its longtime role as a Post Office and grocery store. Samuel Upson bought the property in 1857 from Sheldon Moore. It remained an Upson family store for several decades. The large and varied holdings of the Moore family make its earlier history difficult to trace.

An early 18th-century date has been claimed for this building. Although it is possible that some portion of the building dates to the 18th century, the bulk of the present fabric is clearly 19th century. The square massing and double-pitched hip roof would not be found in an 18th century building, though by the Federal period (1800-1830) such roofs were occasionally used.

RCES

1869 Atlas
Berlin Land Records 33:15 (1857)